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**RIPPONDEN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(N. E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.)

FOR 1958

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ELLAND:

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Ripponden U.D.C.

Medical Officer of Health :

NORMAN E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

GLADYS V. BRADSHAW, M.B., B.S., D.Obst.,
R.C.O.G.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor :

J. SHARPLES, C.S.I., A.I.S.E., F.A.B.S.S.

West Riding County Council :

Preventive Medical Services : Health Division 19.

Staff with duties in the Ripponden District.

Divisional Medical Officer : as above (M.O.H.).

Senior Assistant County M.O. and School M.O. and
Medical Officer for Ripponden Maternity and Child
Welfare Clinic :

*GLADYS V. BRADSHAW, M.B., B.S.,
D.Obst.R.C.O.G.

Assistant County Medical Officer and School M.O. :

*D. S. PICKUP, L.M.S.S.A., M.B., B.S.

School Dental Officer :

Vacant.

Health Visitor :

*M. O. FORRESTER, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor :

*B. G. NICHOLL, S.R.N.

Mental Health Social Worker :

*E. C. WROE, S.R.N., R.M.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Mental Health Home Teacher (Qualified) :

*M. H. GRAHAM, B.A.

Midwife :

*P. WRIGHT, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.
(Commenced 1st November, 1958).

Home Nurse :

*K. BOTTOMLEY, S.R.N.

Joint Clerical Staff—engaged in all constituent districts of the Division, viz. Todmorden, Hebden Royd, Hepton, Sowerby Bridge and Ripponden.

Senior Divisional Clerk : H. MARSHALL, A.C.I.S.

Deputy Senior Divisional Clerk : MISS J. SUTCLIFFE.

MISS P. JACKSON.

MRS. M. REDFERN.

MRS. J. E. SUTCLIFFE.

MISS B. MARSHALL.

MISS M. J. CROWTHER.

T. WALTON.

R. WILD.

MISS C. SHANN.

Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee :

Consultant Staff :

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon :

W. O. LODGE, M.D., F.I.C.S., F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

Chest Physician :

BERTRAM MANN, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H.

Orthopaedic Surgeon :

G. HYMAN, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

P. M. WOOD, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

*Also have duties in other parts of this division.

Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre,
Todmorden.

August, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,
Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the twelfth Annual Report since the inception of the scheme of Divisional Health Administration.

Under the Divisional Health Scheme your Medical Officer of Health is also Divisional Medical Officer for the West Riding County Council's local health services and has similar functions in the Borough of Todmorden, the Urban Districts of Sowerby Bridge and Hebden Royd and the Rural District of Hepton. The scheme has led to a closer integration of local authority health services.

The vital statistics for the year are marked by a sharp fall in the birth rate, from 15.2 in 1957 to 11.1 in 1958. It is reassuring, however, to observe that only one stillbirth was notified and, for the fourth time in a decade, there was no death in infants under the age of one year; also in the past ten years there has not been a single maternal death. These facts reflect the highest credit upon all associated with the care of mothers and young children.

The incidence of poliomyelitis in 1958 was generally low but this divisional area, unfortunately, was involved in a local outbreak. The number of cases notified, eleven, has only twice been exceeded, in the epidemic years of 1947 and 1949. Two cases occurred in Ripponden. The majority of the cases were notified in the summer months and at that time almost exactly half the children under the age of 15 years in this area had received two injections of polio vaccine. Only one mild case occurred in these children, while ten unprotected children contacted the disease, some being afflicted with extensive paralysis. Most of the cases were under the age of seven years and one cannot emphasise too strongly the importance of having all young children vaccinated against poliomyelitis.

Good progress has been maintained in the poliomyelitis vaccination campaign and late in the year the age groups eligible for protection were extended to include young adults and a third injection was made available. At the end of the year, some 5,469 persons in the divisional area had received two injections and an additional 1,056 had received three, a total of over 14,000 injections given to 6,525 persons. The position with regard to children is now very satisfactory but the response from young adults in the community is still disappointing.

Since the inception of the National Health Service, there has been a gradual expansion of the services available for nursing and caring for the sick and aged in their own homes. The home help staff have worked more hours than ever before, mostly giving assistance to the elderly. This service is very much appreciated and is often regarded as the most important factor in enabling them to carry on outside welfare institutions and hospitals.

Some of the houses occupied by old people, however, leave much to be desired. The tradition that a small cottage and a low rent are of prime importance still persists and completely ignores the fact that the aged, with their physical limitations, have a far greater need of modern amenities than their younger and more active relations. An inconveniently placed outside toilet can be a real hardship in the winter months. As the programme for the clearance of unfit houses in the district proceeds, the Council will be faced with the problem of offering suitable accommodation to displaced elderly tenants and the time is approaching when serious consideration must be given to erecting flats or bungalows for the purpose.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council for their kindness, patience and co-operation and to thank Mr. Sharples, Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, for his kindness and efforts to give me the sanitary circumstances of the area, and indeed to all your officials with whom I made contacts, personal and official.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

N. E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION 1.

Vital Statistics — 1958.

STATISTICS.

Area—13,289 acres.

Population—Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population, mid. 1958—5,030.

Census 1951—5,213.

Number of dwellinghouses—1,912.

Rateable Value—£44,256 2s. 0d. (year 1958-9).

Product of a penny rate—£202.

Summary of Vital Statistics.*

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births ...	56	29	27	Birth Rate per 1,000 population 11.1.
Still Births ...	1	1	—	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—17.5.
Total Live and Still Births ...	57	30	27	
Deaths of Infants—				Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live birth
Under 1 year (total) ...	—	—	—	total—Nil.
Under 1 year (legitimate)	—	—	—	legitimate—Nil.
Under 1 year (illegitimate)	—	—	—	illegitimate—Nil.
Under 4 weeks	—	—	—	Neo-natal mortality rate—Nil.
Illegitimate Live Births ...	6	2	4	Percentage of total live births—10.7.
Maternal Deaths (associated with pregnancy or childbirth)	—	—	—	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births—Nil.
All Deaths ...	73	40	33	Death Rate per 1,000 population—14.5.

*These figures include births outside the Urban District to mothers usually resident in Ripponden.

Causes of Death in Ripponden U.D.

						1958.	
Cause of Death						M.	F.
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
10	Malignant, neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	1	—
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...	...	...	...	—	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	—
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	5	1
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	—
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	5	7
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	14	7
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	—	2
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	4	5
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	2	2
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	3
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	3	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	—	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital malformation	...	...	...	...	—	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	3	1
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	1
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	—
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—
Total, all causes						40	33

Principal Vital Statistics for the year 1958 :

Based on Registrar General's Figures.

	Ripponden U.D.	Sowerby Brge U.D.	Hebden Royd U.D.	Todmorden M.B.	Hepton R.D.	W. Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (Provis- ional Figures)
BIRTH RATE :— (per 1,000 estimated population) ...	11.1	16.4	11.7	13.8	12.3	16.7	16.4
DEATH RATES :— (All per 1,000 estimated population)							
All Causes ...	14.5	14.9	17.1	13.6	12.5	11.9	11.7
Infective and parasitic diseases*	—	0.06	—	—	—	0.05	* *
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	—	0.06	0.10	0.11	—	0.09	0.09
Other forms of tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
Cancer ...	1.59	2.32	2.37	2.6	1.50	1.97	2.12
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	2.39	2.32	2.89	2.71	2.51	1.93	* *
Heart and circulatory diseases†	7.16	6.01	8.67	5.20	5.76	4.59	* *
Respiratory Diseases :—† (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1.99	1.32	0.62	1.27	1.25	1.33	* *
INFANT MORTALITY :— (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	—	47.0	17.7	8.0	—	24.4	22.5
MATERNAL MORTALITY :— (Deaths of mothers associated with pregnancy or childbirth per 1,000 live and still-births)	—	—	—	—	—	0.43	0.43

* Combined death rate from syphilitic disease, diphtheria, whooping cough, meningococcal infections, acute poliomyelitis, measles and other infective and parasitic diseases, (items 3 to 9 incl. on p. 7).

† Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system, (items 18 to 21 incl. on p. 7).

† Combined death rate from influenza, pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system, (items 22 to 25 incl. on p. 7).

SECTION II.

General Provision of Health Services.

A. Hospitals.

There is no hospital in Ripponden. Patients requiring hospital treatment are referred as a rule to hospitals under the administration of the Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee (National Health Service). Included in this group are the Halifax General Hospital, Royal Halifax Infirmary, St. John's Hospital (for aged and chronic sick), Northowram Hall Hospital (for Infectious Diseases), Todmorden Fielden Hospital (for long stay medical cases in children), and Todmorden Stansfield View Hospital (for mental defectives).

Maternity beds are available at the Halifax General Hospital. Priority in booking is given to abnormal cases, mothers expecting their first child, and mothers with unsatisfactory home conditions.

Special hospitals (e.g. Mental Hospitals, Orthopaedic Hospitals, Tuberculosis Sanatoria, etc.) outside the Halifax area are available when required ; they are situated in various parts of the so-called "Leeds Hospital Region" which in fact extends into all three Ridings.

B. Ambulance Facilities.

The County Ambulance Service (Divisional Depot at Brighouse—telephone Brighouse 840) covers this district. Arrangements also exist with the Halifax County Borough Health Department for the use of their ambulances for the transfer of patients to and from the hospitals in Halifax.

C. Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) at laboratories in Wakefield and Bradford and by the Regional Blood Transfusion Service at Leeds.

D. Issue of Anti-toxin, etc.

Supplies of diphtheria and tetanus anti-toxin are available at the Northowram Hall Hospital and at the Royal Halifax Infirmary for issue to medical practitioners requiring them.

By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board supplies of tetanus anti-toxin are also kept at the Divisional Health Office,

The Medical Centre, Todmorden, for the use of medical practitioners in the Division. A supply of reagents for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus immunisation is also available free of charge to private practitioners who have undertaken to participate in the West Riding County Council's schemes of immunisation. Polio-myelitis vaccine is also issued, as available, in accordance with the approved arrangements.

SECTION III.

W.R.C.C. PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES.

A. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held at the Zion Congregational Sunday School, Ripponden, every Tuesday afternoon, and is attended by a doctor and the Health Visitor. An Ante-Natal Clinic similarly staffed is held in the early afternoon of the first Tuesday in every month. A School Clinic staffed by the Health Visitor is held each Tuesday morning.

B. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Ripponden Ante Natal Clinic.

Number of expectant mothers attending during the year	8
Total Number of attendances	36

Ripponden Child Welfare Centre.

Total number of children who attended during the year	132
Total number of attendances	1116

Home Visiting of Infants.

Total number of live births to Ripponden mothers ...	56
Number of first visits to children under 1 year ...	46
Total number of visits to children under 1 year ...	479
Total number of visits to children aged 1—2 years ...	325
Total number of visits to children aged 2—5 years ...	634

Provision of Welfare Foods, etc.

National Dried Milk, cod liver oil, orange juice, etc., are distributed at the Centre and a variety of brands of dried milk and other infant foods are also sold at the Child Welfare Centre for the convenience of mothers.

Care of Premature Infants.

Special equipment and nursing staff is available for use in the home in cases requiring them.

Provision of Maternity Outfits.

These are provided free to mothers preparing for confinement in their own homes.

C. Professional Nursing in the Home.

The West Riding County Council is responsible for both home nursing and midwifery in this area. There is one full-time Home Nurse and one full-time Midwife working in Ripponden and neighbouring parts of the Sowerby Bridge U.D.

Midwifery Service.

Number of home confinements	...	...	...	21
Number of hospital confinements	...	...	...	36

Analgesia.

The Ripponden Midwife is trained in the administration of gas and air analgesia and is provided with the necessary equipment. Analgesia is available to all mothers desiring it subject to satisfactory medical examination by a doctor.

D. Health Visitor.

The duties of the Health Visitor are combined with those of School Nurse. In pursuance of the National Health Service Act the scope of this service includes home visiting for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of children, of persons (including adults) suffering from illness, and of expectant and nursing mothers. The Health Visitor also gives advice in the home as to measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

E. Home Helps.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, the County Council provide domestic help for households "where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age."

Twelve cases were attended in Ripponden during 1958 in the following categories : Aged persons and illness. The total number of hours worked by home helps was 1,908 as compared with 1,456 in 1957.

F. Care and after care.

Special provisions are in operation for the care and after care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defect, venereal disease, and other illnesses.

G. School Health Service.

Number of schools in district	4
Number of children attending at end of 1958	368
Number of children examined at these schools during 1958	249
This figure being made up as follows :—	
Routine examinations	213
Re-examinations	36
Number of above children referred for treatment	12

H. Immunisation and Vaccination.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox and whooping cough may be done either at the clinic or by the family doctor.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Number of Children in Ripponden who completed a full course of Diphtheria immunisation, 1958.

Began and completed injections 1958 :—

0-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24	13	3	—	—	5	8	3	8	2	3	—	1	—	1

Total 71.

Immunised in previous years, re-treated 1958 :—

0-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
—	—	—	—	2	25	27	21	16	30	31	11	1	—	—

Total 164.

Number of Children in Ripponden who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time to 31.12.58.

Age at 31/12/58	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total under 15
No. immun.	1	32	37	23	22	226	342	683

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Number of Children in Ripponden who completed a full course of Whooping Cough immunisation, 1958.

Age at final Injection	Under 6 Mths.	6 Mths. to 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	Total
No. Immunised —	1	13	12	1	—	27

Number of Children in Ripponden who had completed a course of Whooping Cough immunisation at any time before 31.12.58.

Age at 31-12-58 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1958	1 1957	2 1956	3 1955	4 1954	5-9 1953-49	Total
No. Immunised	1	34	40	27	26	61	189

During the year there were no cases of Whooping Cough notified.

Vaccination against smallpox.

During the year records were received of the vaccination against smallpox of 52 persons living in the Ripponden area. Of this number 26 were infants under the age of one year.

SECTION IV. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Summary of Notifications received in the year 1958.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.					
Scarlet Fever	—
Whooping cough	—
Acute poliomyelitis	2
Measles	102
Diphtheria	—
Meningococcal infection	—
Acute pneumonia	—
Dysentery	—
Smallpox	—
Acute encephalitis	—
Enteric or Typhoid fever	—
Paratyphoid fevers	—
Erysipelas	—
Food Poisoning	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Pulmonary tuberculosis	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—

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Tuberculosis.

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in Ripponden in 1958 :—

	Respiratory			Non-Resp.			Ttls.
	M	F	Ttl.	M	F	Ttl.	
No. on Register on 1st January, 1958	10	14	24	3	2	5	29
No. first notified during 1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. of cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification	—	2	2	—	—	—	2
No. removed from Register during 1958 :—							
(a) Died	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
(b) Removed from district	—	1	1	1	—	1	2
(c) Recovered	—	1	1	2	1	3	4
No. remaining on Register 31.12.58	10	13	23	—	1	1	24

SECTION V.

Sanitary Circumstances.

Number of houses in district	1912
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Water Supply.

The public water supply is from the Council's reservoir which is fed from an underground spring.

No. of dwellinghouses on public supply	1430
--	-----	-----	------

No. of dwellinghouses not supplied from public mains but having a satisfactory private supply	482
--	-----	-----	-----

Examination of supplies.

No. of samples examined :—

(a) Chemical—3. Results satisfactory.

(b) Plumbo-solvency—3. Results satisfactory.

(c) Bacteriological—4. Results satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Percentage of houses connected to sewers	76
--	-----	-----	----

Percentage of houses with satisfactory private drainage	13
---	----

Percentage of houses with unsatisfactory private drainage	11
---	----

Sewer extension during 1958—None. Work was proceeding with an extension in Soyland Town.

Sewers are still required at Krumlin, Wall Nook and outlying parts of Soyland, and sewage disposal works are required at Krumlin and Wall Nook.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Percentage of houses provided with W.C.	88
---	-----	-----	----

Percentage of houses provided with waste water closets	1
--	---

Percentage number of houses provided with pail closets	11
--	----

No. of pail closets, etc. converted to water carriage in 1958	Nil
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Grants are made by the Council for conversion of privies, waste water closets and pails to W.C. system. There are still 230 dwellings in the Urban District which are not served by a W.C. system.

Nuisance Inspections.

There were two nuisances found in 1958 which required abatement. Informal notices were served and complied with.

	Cattle exclu- ding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
No. killed ...	113	604	3	1347	1684
No. inspected ...	98	580	3	1298	1636
All diseases except T.B. and cysticercosis					
Whole carcasses	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses ...	6	29	Nil	47	6
Percentage carcasses	6.12	5.00	Nil	3.62	0.36
Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses ...	Nil	9	Nil	Nil	22
Percentage carcasses	Nil	1.55	Nil	Nil	1.34
Cysticercosis					
Part carcasses ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

